

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephone interview granted September 15. During that interview, agreement was reached for amending the independent claims as indicated herein to more clearly distinguish over the present art of record and particularly the combination of Lester in view of Murakami further in view of Conley further in view of Ochiai.

During the interview, it was agreed that claim 93 distinguishes in a number of different ways. First, claim 93 recites that the control panel server is internal to the first printer. In Murakami the server TUO in Figure 3 is clearly external to the printer 3.

Next, claim 93, recites that the control data accessed by the operating output from the first printer unit and contains internal control variables of the first printer not otherwise accessible by the operating unit. In this regard attention was drawn to Applicants' substitute specification page 1, line 25 indicating that access to internal control variables of the printer are not possible with the aid of the operating unit in the prior art. But with the invention the operating unit can access these internal control variables. Examiner agreed that neither Murakami nor Lester does not access by the operating unit such control data recited in claim 93. Lester and Murakami only talk about sending print jobs to a printer and not about control data containing internal control variables of the printer not otherwise accessible by the operating unit.

Furthermore, not only do Lester and Murakami not show the output and transfer of such control data with internal control variables but also the recitation in claim 93 of the first and second control units containing a distributed object model with objects aiding access to the control data is not shown in either reference.

Dependent claims 94 – 102 distinguish at least for the reasons noted with respect to claim 93 and also by reciting additional features not suggested.

Method claim 103 distinguishes in a manner similar to claim 93.

Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to account No. 501519.

Respectfully submitted,

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